

## Weekly Column for April 15

With the sun shining from above, I had the great honor of announcing the formation of the first-ever River Street Festival Thursday morning.

The event is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup> in Historic Downtown Troy, and is sure to become one of the best yearly events in Troy.

The festival will have an arts and antiques theme, but will include two stages of entertainment from local and national bands, food vendors, and crafts vendors. The excitement is being planned with cooperation between City government and the River Street Merchants.

The fun gets underway on that Saturday at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. The entertainment portion of the event will take place beginning at Noon. The boundaries will run from the northern point of Monument Square on River Street to the intersection of Congress and River Streets. At each end of the festival will be two stages providing the entertainment.

Playing at the festival will be Erin Harkes, Folding Sky, Sean Rowe, The Sharks, Rasinhead, Jackinnany, and national recording artists The Fleshtones. The cost of the entertainment is being covered by the City of Troy, and all of the bands playing have ties to the Collar City.

There will also be a juried arts and crafts during the festival.

While food, crafts, and entertainment will be the order of the day, alcohol consumption will be limited to the inside of Artie's River Street Stage.

We can only hope that people will embrace this the way other festivals are talked about in our area. All of us know and love Troy. This is one way for us to get the word out. To let everyone know what we are all about.

Many thanks should go out to Deputy Mayor Dan Crawley for his hard work putting this together, as well as the numerous business owners on River St. who believe so much that their area is destined to succeed.

One other note this week is that the Action Team will be joining forces with the Troy Police Benevolent Association for a Take Back the Park gathering on Saturday morning on Ninth St. It will be great to work closely with the Troy PBA to make outside influences understand that this is our City and we will keep it that way.

As usual, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or complaints, do not hesitate to call me at 270-4401, or you can always e-mail me at the